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ACTION: EUR-00

INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-10	SS-00	CIAE-00
	DODE-00	H-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	ARA-00	NSAE-00	HA-09
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P 211328Z NOV 86
 FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5070
 INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
 AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
 AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
 AMEMBASSY OSLO
 AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
 AMCONSUL GOTEBOG POUCH

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
☒ Release () Excise () Deny ☒ Declassify
 Date 2/27/02 Exemption _____

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 STOCKHOLM 09238

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PREL, UNGA, SW, NU
 SUBJECT: "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE" WINDS UP TWO-WEEK
 CAMPAIGN IN SWEDEN

REF: STOCKHOLM 8780

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. THIS IS A JOINT STOCKHOLM-GOTEBOG MESSAGE.
3. SUMMARY: USING THE THEMES "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE" AND "DEFEND LIFE IN NICARAGUA," SOME 40 PEACE GROUPS WORKING TOGETHER STAGED A TWO-WEEK NATIONAL CAMPAIGN RECENTLY TO PROTEST U.S. POLICY IN NICARAGUA. PARTICIPATION, BOTH IN STOCKHOLM AND GOTEBOG (SWEDEN'S SECOND CITY), WAS GENERALLY SPARSE AND LOW-KEY, WITH THE

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EXCEPTION OF A SHARP NOVEMBER 17 ATTACK ON U.S. POLICY BY MFA UNDERSECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (NUMBER TWO) PIERRE SCHORI AT A PUBLIC RALLY IN GOTEBOG. THE AMBASSADOR HAS REGISTERED OUR CONCERN OVER SCHORI'S REMARKS. END SUMMARY.

4. UNDER THE GENERAL RUBRIC OF "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE," APPROXIMATELY 40 SWEDISH GROUPS ACTIVE IN PEACE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS HELD RALLIES, DISCUSSION MEETINGS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AROUND THE COUNTRY, WITH PRIMARY EMPHASIS IN THE TWO LARGEST CITIES OF STOCKHOLM AND GOTEBOG. A NOVEMBER 15 MARCH IN STOCKHOLM ATTRACTED ABOUT 300 SUPPORTERS WHO MARCHED FROM THE CENTER OF THE CITY TO

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THE EMBASSY. THE MARCHERS, FAR FEWER IN NUMBER THAN THE SPONSORS HAD HOPED (ACCORDING TO POLICE), WERE PEACEFUL AND THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS OR ARRESTS.

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5. IN GOTEBOG, THE CAMPAIGN WAS SIMILARLY LOW-KEY. ANNOUNCED DEMONSTRATIONS OUTSIDE THE CONGEN MATERIALIZED ONLY IN THE FORM OF 2 OR 3 PEOPLE HOLDING A BANNER AND COLLECTING MONEY FROM PASSERS-BY. (IN CONTRAST, A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST SOVIET AFGHANISTAN POLICY ASSEMBLED 60 VOCAL PARTICIPANTS OUTSIDE THE LARGE SOVIET CONSULATE IN GOTEBOG NOVEMBER 6.) A RALLY ON NOVEMBER 15 ELSEWHERE IN GOTEBOG WAS SOMEWHAT BETTER ATTENDED AS SEVERAL HUNDRED PARTICIPANTS LISTENED TO PRESENTATIONS BY MARILYN GORDON OF WITNESS FOR PEACE, LIBERATION THEOLOGIST URIEL MOLINA, AND COMPOSER CARLOS MEIJA GODOY. AN EFFORT BY CAMPAIGN ORGANIZERS TO ESTABLISH A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOTEBOG AND CORINTO WAS REBUFFED BY THE CITY'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT ON THE GROUNDS THAT GOREBOG DOES NOT HAVE SUCH RELATIONSHIPS OUTSIDE THE NORDIC COUNTRIES.

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6. THE MOST VOCAL AND HIGHLY-PUBLICIZED ASPECT OF THE WEEK'S ACTIVITIES WAS A NOVEMBER 17 "DEBATE" IN GOTEBOG ON WHETHER NICARAGUA IS IN FACT A DEMOCRACY. PARTICIPATING IN THE "DEBATE" WERE GOTEBOG'S LUTHERAN BISHOP BERTIL GARTNER, THEOLOGIST MOLINA, AND THE MFA'S STAUCHEST OPPONENT OF U.S. LATIN POLICY, PIERRE SCHORI. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, SCHORI LIKENED U.S. CENTRAL AMERICA POLICY TO "A FIREMAN WHO FILLS HIS HOSE WITH GASOLINE INSTEAD OF WATER." SCHORI ACCUSED THE U.S. OF VIOLATING BASIC RULES OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND OF CONTRIBUTING TO A "LAW OF THE JUNGLE" IN WHICH GREAT POWERS OPPRESS SMALLER STATES IN PURSUIT OF THEIR OWN INTERESTS. HE CONDEMNED THE CONTRAS AS A KIND OF "FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER" SOWING DEATH AND TERROR.

7. THE "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE" CAMPAIGN PRESENTED THE EMBASSY AND CONGEN GOTEBOG WITH SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO CORRECT SOME OF THE MORE BLATANT MISCONCEPTIONS OF U.S. CENTRAL AMERICA POLICY, AND TO REITERATE OUR VIEW THAT PUBLIC BROADSIDES SUCH AS SCHORI'S ARE UNHELPFUL TO EITHER SIDE:

-- WHILE AT THE MFA ON OTHER BUSINESS, AMBASSADOR NEWELL RAISED SCHORI'S REPORTED REMARKS IN GOTEBOG WITH POLITICAL DIRECTOR JAN ELIASSON. NOTING THAT HE WAS NOT ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY SCHORI'S STATEMENTS, PRINCIPALLY BECAUSE THEIR "TONE" WAS SO MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT WITH WHICH OTHER ASPECTS OF THE U.S.-SWEDISH DIALOGUE WERE NOW CONDUCTED. ELIASSON SAID HE HAD EXPECTED THE AMBASSADOR TO RAISE THE MATTER, AND IMPLIED THAT SCHORI HAD BEEN SPEAKING ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE

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DURING HIS GOTEBOG APPEARANCE. THE AMBASSADOR SAID
THAT SCHORI'S COMMENTS WERE "UNHELPFUL" BOTH TO US
AND TO SWEDEN, SINCE THEY WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE NOTED
AMONG A LARGER AUDIENCE.

-- THE EMBASSY (POL AND USIS) HOSTED A GROUP OF SIX
LEADERS OF THE "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE" CAMPAIGN,
INCLUDING ITS CHAIRMAN BO NYLUND (A MEMBER OF THE
SWEDISH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL) AND TWO SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT. EMBOFFS ENGAGED IN A FRANK,
TWO-HOUR GIVE AND TAKE WITH THE DELEGATION WHICH PRO-
VIDED THEM WITH A STRAIGHTFORWARD, UNAPOLOGETIC EXPLANA-
TION OF THE SOURCES AND IMPERATIVES OF U.S. POLICY

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TOWARDS THE SANDINISTAS.

-- CONSUL GENERAL THOMPSON GAVE AN UNRECORDED INTERVIEW TO A REPORTER FOR SOCIALIST YOUTH RADIO IN GOTEBOG, WHO EXPLAINED THAT SHE NEEDED "MORE INFORMATION ON U.S. POLICY TO REPORT ACCURATELY." THE CONGEN EMPHASIZED THE ADMINISTRATION'S CONSISTENT AND EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

8. ALTHOUGH NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE," THE RETURN TO STOCKHOLM OF AID MINISTER LENA HJELM-WALLEN FROM A VISIT TO NICARAGUA COINCIDED WITH THE END OF THE CAMPAIGN, AND PROVIDED ADDITIONAL GRIST FOR SWEDISH OPPONENTS OF U.S. POLICY. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 18, HJELM-WALLEN PRAISED NICARAGUA, A REGULAR RECIPIENT OF SWEDISH AID, FOR HAVING USED THAT AID "VERY EFFECTIVELY" TO AID ITS AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. SHE SAID THAT NICARAGUA "DID NOT WANT TO BE DEPENDENT" UPON ANY SUPERPOWER, BUT THAT U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE CONTRAS HAD "FORCED" NICARAGUA TO SEEK HELP FROM THE EASTERN BLOC. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S CLOSING OF "LA PRENSA" NEWSPAPER, HJELM-WALLEN SAID THE SANDINISTAS HAD TOLD HER THAT THEY HAD BEEN FORCED TO CLOSE THE PAPER BECAUSE "IT RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM THE CIA, AND THEREFORE COULD BE SEEN AS SUPPORTING THE CONTRAS."

9. ON THE SAME DAY WHICH NEWSPAPERS HERE REPORTED HJELM-WALLEN'S PRESS CONFERENCE (NOVEMBER 19), THEY ALSO CARRIED A REPORT OF SWEDISH UN AMBASSADOR ANDERS FERM'S SPEECH TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 18. FERM'S FAMILIAR CRITICISMS, APPARENTLY FACTUALLY REPORTED, STRESSED SWEDISH DISPLEASURE WITH THE U.S.

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"FAILURE" TO HEED THE JUDGMENT OF THE ICJ, U.S. "LACK OF RESPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL BORDERS," AND CONTINUED U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE CONTRAS WHICH HAS ALLEGEDLY LED TO A "NEW AND MORE SERIOUS PHASE" OF THE CONFLICT IN CENTRAL AMERICA. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE GOS REGRETTED NICARAGUA'S DECISION TO EXTEND THE STATE OF EMERGENCY AND TO FURTHER LIMIT FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, BUT NOTED THAT THIS HAD BEEN DONE IN CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. CONGRESS' DECISION TO APPROVE \$100 MILLION IN CONTRA AID.

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10. COMMENT: "NICARAGUA MUST SURVIVE" WILL NOT BE THE LAST SUCH MANIFESTATION OF THE CONTINUING CONCERN IN SWEDEN OVER U.S. POLICY IN CENTRAL AND LATIN AMERICA. WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES TO KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT, CORRECT DISTORTIONS AND

COUNTER THE ACTIVE EFFORTS OF SANDINISTA APOLOGISTS
AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF SWEDISH SOCIETY. END COMMENT.
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*** Current Classification *** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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